



Classroom, Inc.

After the Storm Discussion Questions

PRE-GAMEPLAY

To prepare students for playing *After the Storm: Day One*, stimulate a discussion about journalism and about *The Daily Byte* by asking these questions:

1. How do people in your family read the news—in print newspapers or magazines, or online? What are the titles of the sources they read?
2. What topics would you expect to read about in an online magazine devoted only to your community?
3. What is the difference between a straight news piece and an editorial (opinion piece)? Why is it important to know which one you're reading?
4. I'm going to ask you a few questions about job roles at an online magazine. Let's see what you know about them.
 - What is an editor-in-chief, and what does that person do?
(e.g., An editor-in-chief is responsible for all the day-to-day operations of an online publication, including assigning and editing stories.)
 - Why would a news magazine need its own photographer?
(e.g., It's important that a photographer be available to take photos at the site of a breaking story.)
 - The chief reporter for *The Daily Byte* is out of the office a lot during the day, but she's working hard! What do you think she's doing?
(e.g., She's doing on-site research and interviewing key people in a developing news story.)
 - A great many companies, including *The Daily Byte*, have a Director of Technology. What might a person with that job do in a typical day?
(e.g., That person would troubleshoot any problems with office equipment, including computers, and make sure servers, email, and the company website is working properly.)



- Today lots of businesses have a social media editor. What *is* social media? Why would a company want a social media editor?
(e.g., *Social media refers to online communities in which users share information, messages, and images. Social media is a great way for businesses to attract and communicate with people interested in what they do.*)

POST-GAMEPLAY

To encourage students to analyze their experience of the learning game, ask these questions:

1. Maggie said that on social media someone posted a picture of a shark riding a surfboard down flooded Oak Street and another news source picked it up as a real story. Why is this bad journalism?
2. Judging from Mayor Young's urgent public message about the storm, do you think the city of Port Douglas is doing a good job of helping people directly after the storm? Explain your answer.



3. *The Daily Byte* reported on its blog post that Governor San Miguel said people who were staying in storm-damaged homes were "straining city and state resources." What did he mean?
4. It's become common to see people taking pictures in the middle of a crisis, for example photographing a hurricane, a street riot, or a crime being committed. What are the pros and cons of taking pictures during a crisis?